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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/806,283

03/23/2004

Chang-An Yang

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7590

12/14/2005

LEONG C LEI

PMB # 1008

1867 YGNACIO VALLEY ROAD

WALNUT CREEK, CA 94598

EXAMINER

NEILS, PEGGY A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2875

DATE MAILED: 12/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/806,283

Applicant(s)

YANG, CHANG-AN

Examiner

Peggy A. Neils

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2875

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The claim language does not appear to use consistent language throughout the claims. There are also some grammatical problems that are noted below. In particular, Claim 1 sets forth a light guiding structure for "the floor pan edge of car". It is not clear if this is a running board or other structure associated with a vehicle because further in Claim 1, Applicant sets forth a "door panel" (see line 6). In line 2 of Claim 1 -- a -- needs to be inserted before "light source body". It is not clear what is meant or what structure is readable as the "having projection light source" in line 3. Also in line 3, "at the two ends of the thin light guiding plate" should be rewritten as -- at each end of the light guiding plate --. There is no antecedent basis for the light guiding plate being "thin". In line 4, "the bottom" should be changed to -- a bottom --. In line 7, "the bottom" needs to be changed to -- a bottom --. In line 8, "aligned" needs to be changed to -- alignment--. In line 12, the claim sets forth a "light source body" however, at the beginning of the claim LEDs were set forth as the light source body. Subsequent language to the light source should probably be using the LEDs. In line 13, "separated" should be deleted. In line 14, "covering" should be deleted. In Claim 2, line 2, "are protruded with a positioning peg," should be changed to -- have a protruding positioning peg, --. Also in line 34, "or

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light source body" should be deleted. The pegs do not go through the actual light source body. Also the end of the claim should include -- the light guiding plate --. Claim 2 is indefinite as written because the claim ends with "for positioning". In Claim 3, line 1, there is no antecedent basis for the "two sides of the bottom face". In Claim 5, line 2 -- a -- needs to be inserted before "thin metal" and in line 3, "of larger" needs to be changed to -- having a larger -- and "wall" need to be changed to -- walls --.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-5 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Claims 1-5 are considered to have allowable subject matter because Claim 1 sets forth a light guiding structure including an opaque plate with through holes, a transparent plate with embossed characters and a disperse film on the bottom surface, a light guiding plate, light source, reflective matte face, and a cover. This combination of limitations was not shown or suggested by the prior art.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Sano et al, Johnson, Chiang, Shy, and Guest are cited of interest.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications should be directed to Examiner Neils at (571) 272-2377 on a Monday or Thursday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378.



**Y. MY QUACH-LEE
PRIMARY EXAMINER**